



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ARREST AND RECOVERY IN THEFT FROM LOCAL MUSEUM

(San Diego) On Thursday, May 24, 2007, Central Division Detective Tim Johnson served a search warrant in the Kensington area and recovered several items stolen from the San Diego Natural History Museum. Those items were valued at about \$15,000.

In addition to the museum items, numerous small baggies of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia were found inside the residence. Ruben Lopez, 22, a former employee of the museum was arrested near Balboa Park just prior to the service of the search warrant.

The theft took place in May of 2004 and the museum proprietors initially were not certain whether the items had been stolen or were misplaced during a re-organization of exhibits.

Lopez was booked into San Diego Central Jail and charged with grand theft 487(a), possession of narcotics for sale 11377(a) and embezzlement 508 PC.

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